



**606.08 Inmate's Family Death, Injury, or
Illness**

Number Series: 600 - Corrections Division

Sheriff's Approval: Digital

Approved Date: February 28, 2019

Review Due Date: February 28, 2020

Review Frequency: Annually

606.08-1 Policy

- I. This written directive will establish procedures and guidelines to be used when Hendry County Sheriff's Office Jail staff must inform inmates of the death, injury, or serious illness of a family member, and will also establish conditions and procedures for providing special hospital visitation and funeral attendance.
- II. When appropriate and approved by competent authority, escorted inmates may be allowed leaves into the community for the purpose of attending deceased viewings or death bed visits.

606.08-2 Notifications

- I. HCSO may be notified by a concerned third party via telephone or other means, of the death, injury, or serious illness of a family member of an inmate.
- II. Inmates may be directly informed by a concerned third party, of the death, injury, or serious illness of a family member via U.S. mail, visitation or telephone call initiated by the inmate.

606.08-3 Fact Finding

Deputies receiving notification of the death, injury or serious illness of a family member of an inmate shall gather as much information as possible from the reporting party.

- I. Inmate's name.
- II. Name(s) of dead, injured or seriously ill person(s).
- III. Nature and seriousness of injury or illness.
- IV. Relationship of dead, injured or seriously ill person(s) to inmate.
- V. Name of caller and relationship to inmate.
- VI. Name and telephone number to contact for further information if reporting party is neutrally involved.

606.08-4 Verification

- I. Information received concerning the death, injury, or serious illness of a family member of an inmate shall be verified prior to informing the inmate.
- II. Verification may be accomplished by telephone or other reasonable means:
 - A. Contact the hospital.
 - B. Contact the funeral home.
 - C. Contact the nearest police department or other law enforcement agency.

606.08-5 Inmate Notification

- I. Notification to an inmate of the death, injury or serious illness of a family member should be made by the Jail Chaplain whenever possible.
- II. If the Jail Chaplain is unavailable the following shall make the notification in order of priority:
 - A. Shift Supervisor
 - B. Corrections Division Lieutenant
- III. Upon notification of the death, injury or serious illness of a family member, the inmate should be afforded the opportunity to make telephone contact with family or friends in quiet surroundings such as an office.
- IV. The inmate should be counseled by the Chaplain and/or Mental Health as soon as practicable.

606.08-6 Hospital Visitations

- I. The Sheriff or designee, Jail Administrator, or designee, or Court may authorize hospital visitation privileges for inmates to visit injured or seriously ill family members.
 - A. Inmate transport for hospital visits shall be performed by two (2) Detention Deputies.
 - B. Inmate shall be restrained with handcuffs and leg irons.
 - C. Inmate attire normally will be full uniform. The Jail Administrator, or designee, Sheriff, or Court may authorize that the inmate be dressed in civilian attire.
 - D. Inmates shall never leave the control or sight of transporting Deputies.
 - E. Unless otherwise directed, hospital visits shall last a maximum of one hour (60 minutes).
- II. The court may direct the Sheriff to transport sentenced State or Federal inmates from the institution of incarceration to Hendry County in order to visit a family member in the hospital. Inmates will be returned to institution of incarceration as soon as possible.

606.08-7 Funeral Service Attendance

- I. Only the Sheriff, or designee, Jail Administrator, or designee, or Court may authorize inmate funeral service attendance.

- A. Inmate transport for funeral services shall be performed by a minimum of two (2) Detention Deputies.
- B. Inmate shall be restrained by handcuffs and leg irons. The Sheriff, or designee, Jail Administrator, or designee, or Court may modify restraint procedures.
- C. The Sheriff, or designee, Jail Administrator, or designee, or Court may authorize inmate to be dressed in civilian attire.
- D. Inmate shall never leave the control or sight of transporting Deputies.
- II. Inmate must adhere to and abide by the request of the family.
- III. Inmate may be permitted to view the body.
- IV. Inmate shall be returned to the facility upon termination of the service.
- V. Inmate shall not be permitted to attend the graveside service.
- VI. The court may direct the Sheriff to transport sentenced State or Federal inmates from the institution of incarceration to Hendry County to attend the funeral of a family member. Inmates will be returned to the institution of incarceration as soon as possible.

606.08-8 Security and Control

- I. The level of security shall be determined by the Jail Administrator, or designee, and shall be appropriate with the inmate's security classification within the jail system.
- II. If a loss of control or a breach of security occurs or appears imminent, the inmate shall be immediately removed from the scene and returned to jail.

REFERENCES

State/Federal Regulations:
Florida Model Jail Standards

FCAC:
N/A

PREA:
N/A

Forms:
N/A

Other Policy/ Procedure References:
600.00 Table of Content